YAZOO COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Five-Year Technology Plan

2026 – 2031

Empowering Learners Through Technology

Table of Contents

1. Executive Summary 3
2. District Profile 3
3. Vision, Mission and Values 4
4. Strategic Goals at a Glance 4
5. Strategic Goals — Detailed Objectives 5
Goal 1: Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity 5
Goal 2: Instructional Technology Integration 5
Goal 3: Digital Citizenship and Safety 5
Goal 4: Data Security and Compliance 6
Goal 5: Teacher Recruitment and Efficacy 6
6. Five-Year Implementation Roadmap 6
7. Evaluation and Success Metrics 7
8. Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) 7
9. CIPA Compliance Policy 8
10. Cybersecurity 9
11. Student Device Policy (1:1 Chromebook Program) 10
12. Google Workspace for Education 11
13. Acknowledgment of Receipt 12
14. Board Policies Referenced 13
15. Sources and References 14

1. Executive Summary

The Yazoo County School District's (YCSD) Five-Year Long-Range Technology Plan for 2026–2031 establishes a strategic roadmap for integrating technology meaningfully and equitably into every aspect of district operations and instruction. This plan builds on our existing 1:1 Chromebook initiative, as well as our Google for Education ecosystem while setting ambitious goals for the next five years.

This plan is organized around five core goals and they include the following:

1. Strengthening Digital Infrastructure;
2. Advancing Instructional Technology Integration;
3. Cultivating Digital Citizenship;
4. Investing in Educator Professional Development; and
5. Ensuring Data Security and Regulatory Compliance;

Each goal is tied to a measurable outcome, responsible educator and leaders, funding strategies, and annual milestones.

Technology is not an end in itself—it is a means by which to expand opportunity, deepen learning, and prepare every YCSD graduate for the demands of college, career, and citizenship in a competitive global marketplace.

2. District Profile

Like many school districts, Yazoo County School District serves students across multiple school campuses. The district is committed to closing as many opportunity gaps as possible through strategic investment in technology, infrastructure, and educator capacity.

Current Technology Landscape:

- 1:1 Chromebook program in place for all students;
- Google Workspace for Education suite (Gmail, Classroom, Docs, Drive, Meet);
- District-managed network with web content filtering (CIPA-compliant);
- Existing Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) governing student and staff technology use; and
- Active E-Rate program participant for connectivity funding.

Educational Programs:

- Clever
- Renaissance
- IXL
- HMH
- Mastery Connect
- Moby Max
- Panorama
- MagicSchool
- i-Ready
- Great Minds
- Lumos
- ACT Work Keys

3. Vision, Mission and Values

Vision:

Every Yazoo County student will graduate as a confident, ethical, and skilled digital citizen prepared to thrive in a technology-driven world.

Mission:

The Yazoo County School District will strategically integrate technology to enhance teaching, accelerate learning, expand access to opportunity, and build a connected community of learners and educators.

Core Values:

- Equity – Technology access and opportunity for every student, regardless of ZIP code;
- Excellence – High standards for instruction, infrastructure, and professional practice;
- Safety – Protecting students in digital spaces as vigilantly as physical ones;
- Innovation – Embracing change that serves and accelerates learning, not change for its own sake; and;
- Community – Strengthening the bonds between students, families, educators, and the broader community, thereby building unshakable trust.

4. Strategic Goals at a Glance

The following table summarizes the five strategic goals of this plan:

Goal #	Focus Area	Summary
Goal 1	Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity	Ensure reliable, high-speed internet and modern hardware district-wide
Goal 2	Instructional Technology Integration	Embed technology into teaching and learning for all grade levels
Goal 3	Digital Citizenship and Safety	Build responsible, ethical, and safe technology users
Goal 4	Data Security and Compliance	Protect student data, ensure CIPA/FERPA compliance, and safeguard the network
Goal 5	Teacher Recruitment and Efficacy	Investing in differentiated educator professional development

5. Strategic Goals — Detailed Objectives

Goal 1: Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity

Ensure all students and staff have access to reliable, modern, and secure technology infrastructure.

Objectives:

- Conduct a comprehensive district-wide device and network audit in Year 1;
- Establish and maintain a 1:1 device ratio with a rolling 3-year refresh cycle;
- Upgrade Wi-Fi access points to support high-density classroom use;
- Expand broadband access to support remote and blended learning models; and;
- Ensure 100% of the instructional spaces district wide have reliable connectivity by the end of Year 2;

Goal 2: Instructional Technology Integration

Meaningfully embed technology into classroom instruction to deepen learning and improve student achievement.

Objectives:

- Implement a district-wide Learning Management System (LMS) used consistently across all schools;
- Scaffold AI-assisted and adaptive learning tools in grades 6-12 by Year 2; scale district-wide by Year 3;
- Develop and adopt a K–12 technology integration framework aligned to ISTE standards;
- Promote project-based and student-created digital content across all subject areas; and;
- Track and report technology integration metrics annually to the Board of Education;

Goal 3: Digital Citizenship and Safety

Equip students with the knowledge, skills, and habits to navigate digital spaces responsibly, ethically, and safely.

Objectives:

- Adopt and implement a comprehensive K–12 digital citizenship curriculum (e.g., Common Sense Media) by Year 3;
- Integrate digital literacy and online safety into ALL Grade-level instructional programs;
- Deliver annual parent/guardian digital safety workshops; as well as other topics;
- Update the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) annually to reflect new and recognized trending cyber technologies; and;
- Monitor and enforce all CIPA, COPPA, and FERPA requirements continuously;

Goal 4: Data Security and Compliance

Protect student and staff data and maintain full compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations.

Objectives:

- Conduct an annual cybersecurity audit and implement recommendations within 90 days;
- Ensure 100% CIPA and FERPA compliance verified through an annual review;
- Implement multi-factor authentication (MFA) for all staff district accounts by Year 2;
- Develop and maintain a written cybersecurity incident response plan; and;
- Provide annual cybersecurity awareness training for all staff and age-appropriate training for students to recognize "cyber actors" online seeking data; and

Goal 5: Teacher Recruitment and Efficacy

Investing in differentiated educator professional development to recruit, retain, and grow highly effective teachers across the district.

Objectives:

- Investing in Educator Professional Development;

6. Five-Year Implementation Roadmap

The table below outlines each primary theme and key initiatives for each year of this plan:

Year	Theme	Key Initiatives
Year 1 2026–27	Infrastructure Audit and Refresh	Complete device inventory; replace end-of-life Chromebooks; upgrade Wi-Fi access points; update AUP and student handbook; establish baseline data literacy metrics.
Year 2 2027–28	Instructional Technology Integration	Roll out LMS enhancements; expand Google Workspace training; pilot AI-assisted learning tools in select classrooms; professional development cohorts launched; grow proficiency; demonstrate mastery following pilot.
Year 3 2028–29	Digital Citizenship Expansion	Integrate K–12 digital citizenship curriculum; scale AI tools district-wide; launch parent digital literacy workshops; and conduct mid-plan review and adjust goals.
Year 4 2029–30	Innovation and Personalized Learning	Implement additional adaptive learning platforms; expand STEM/coding programs; introduce data dashboards for teachers; and establish additional cyber security protocols.
Year 5 2030–31	Sustainability and Future-Readiness	Evaluate 5-year outcomes vs. benchmarks; develop next 5-year plan; ensure long-term device refresh cycle funding; celebrate and share district tech success stories.

7. Evaluation and Success Metrics

Progress will be measured annually against the following benchmarks. Results will be reported to the YCSD Board of Education each spring.

Goal Area	Success Metric
Goal 1: Infrastructure	100% of classrooms with reliable Wi-Fi; device-to-student ratio of 1:1 maintained
Goal 2: Instructional Tech	80%+ of teachers using LMS weekly; 70%+ of students demonstrating digital proficiency on assessments
Goal 3: Digital Citizenship	100% K–12 completion of age-appropriate digital citizenship curriculum annually
Goal 4: Data Security	Zero reportable data breaches; 100% CIPA/FERPA compliance verified annually
Goal 5: Professional Dev.	All instructional staff complete minimum 10 hours tech PD per year; 90%+ satisfaction rating

A formal mid-plan review will be conducted at the end of Year 3 (Spring 2029) to assess progress. Any specific areas not progressing will be identified, and a root cause analysis will be conducted to determine the necessary edits or adjustments needed to strengthen the components of this roadmap. Lessons learned will be incorporated, and Year 4–5 priorities will be adjusted accordingly.

8. Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)

The YCSD electronic network is available to students and employees to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and various forms of communication. Use of district technology is a privilege, not a right, and requires adherence to legal and ethical standards.

8.1 Prohibited Uses

The following activities are strictly prohibited on all district-owned devices, networks, and platforms:

1. Accessing, uploading, downloading, or distributing pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material;
2. Transmitting obscene, abusive, threatening, or harassing language;
3. Violating local, state, or federal laws or statutes;
4. Accessing another individual's materials, information, or files without permission;
5. Violating copyright law or using intellectual property without authorization;
6. Using unauthorized passwords or attempting to gain unauthorized access to systems;
7. Damaging, vandalizing, or deliberately misusing hardware, software, or the network; and

8. Using the network for commercial or political purposes;
9. Sharing personal information (address, phone number, etc.) online without authorization;
10. Installing unauthorized software or bypassing security settings; and
11. Accessing academic dishonesty platforms or sites selling student coursework;

8.2 Consequences of Violations

Violations of the Acceptable Use Policy may result in:

- Temporary or permanent loss of technology privileges;
- Disciplinary action up to and including suspension or change of placement (students) or termination of employment (staff); and
- Legal action and/or financial liability for damages to any hardware or software;

8.3 Internet Safety and Personal Safety

- Students shall not reveal personal identifying information (home address, phone number, full name) online;
- Students shall never agree to meet someone encountered only online without parental permission;
- Unauthorized access or hacking into systems or networks is strictly prohibited and may constitute a criminal act; and
- Any activities violating state or federal law — including copyright, obscenity, or unauthorized access statutes — are forbidden and will result in disciplinary action.

9. CIPA Compliance Policy

It is the policy of the Yazoo County School District to implement and maintain all protective measures required under the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) [Pub. L. No. 106-554; 47 U.S.C. 254(h)].

YCSD will successfully complete the following actions as stated in the YCSD Student Handbook:

- Prevent access to inappropriate material on the Internet via updated web content filtering software;
- Prevent unauthorized access, hacking, and other unlawful online activities through network security tools;
- Prevent unauthorized online disclosure or dissemination of personal information about minors;
- Monitor online activities of minors to the extent practicable;
- Conduct annual reviews and updates to all CIPA-related protective measures; and
- Maintain documentation of CIPA compliance for E-Rate certification purposes.

10. Cybersecurity

The Yazoo County School District is committed to protecting its digital infrastructure, which includes student and staff data and network systems, from cybersecurity threats. As the district expands its use of technology, proactive cybersecurity practices are essential to maintaining safe and uninterrupted learning environments.

10.1 Cybersecurity Framework

YCSD follows a multi-layered security approach aligned with best practices from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework, encompassing five core functions:

- Identify – Maintain an up-to-date inventory of all hardware, software, and data assets;
- Protect – Implement safeguards including firewalls, content filtering, endpoint protection, and access controls;
- Detect – Monitor networks and systems for unusual activity or potential breaches in real time;
- Respond – Execute a written incident response plan when a cybersecurity event is detected; and
- Recover – Restore systems and data promptly and successfully while documenting lessons learned;

10.2 Network and System Security

- All district networks are protected by enterprise-grade firewalls and intrusion detection systems;
- Web content filtering, enforced on all devices connected to the district network, is CIPA-compliant;
- Wireless networks are segmented to separate student, staff, and any guest traffic;
- All software and operating systems are kept current with security patches and updates; and
- District servers and cloud services are backed up regularly with off-site or cloud redundancy;

10.3 Account and Access Security

- All staff accounts require strong, unique passwords and multi-factor authentication (MFA) by Year 2 of this plan;
- Student accounts are provisioned and de-provisioned through a centralized identity management system;
- Access to sensitive systems and data is granted on a least-privilege basis — users receive only the access necessary for their role; and
- Shared or generic login credentials are prohibited, and violations will be disciplined accordingly; and
- All accounts are reviewed and audited annually; inactive accounts are promptly disabled

10.4 Incident Response

YCSD maintains a written Cybersecurity Incident Response Plan that is reviewed and updated annually. In the event of a cybersecurity incident, the district will:

- Immediately isolate affected systems to prevent further spread;
- Notify the Director of Technology and District Superintendent;
- Assess the scope and nature of the incident;
- Notify affected individuals and regulatory agencies as required by state and federal law;
- Document the incident, response actions, and outcomes; and
- Implement corrective measures and revise policies and training accordingly;

10.5 Student and Staff Cybersecurity Awareness

- All staff will complete annual cybersecurity awareness training covering phishing, social engineering, password hygiene, and safe data handling;
- Age-appropriate cybersecurity education is integrated into the K-12 digital citizenship curriculum;
- Staff are trained to recognize and report suspicious emails, links, and overall system behavior; and
- The district will conduct periodic simulated phishing exercises to assess and reinforce staff preparedness;

10.6 Third-Party and Vendor Security

- All third-party vendors and software applications with access to district data must comply with YCSD data privacy and security requirements;
- Vendor agreements must include data processing addendums (DPAs) outlining security obligations and breach notification procedures;
- Student data shared with third-party platforms is governed by FERPA, COPPA, and Mississippi student privacy law; and
- The district maintains a current list of all approved third-party applications, data, and reviews this list annually.

11. Student Device Policy (1:1 Chromebook Program)

The Yazoo County School District provides each enrolled student with a district-managed Chromebook as part of our 1:1 technology initiative.

The following policies govern the use, care, and responsibility for district devices.

11.1 Student Responsibilities

- Handle the Chromebook with care; avoid drops, spills, and physical damage;
- Bring the device to school fully charged every day;
- Use the Chromebook only for educational purposes during school hours;
- Do not share your device, login credentials, or passwords with others;
- Use only district-approved applications and programs;
- Do not attempt to bypass security settings, filters, or install unauthorized software; and
- Report damage, loss, or theft immediately to a teacher or school administrator.

Students who do not adhere to these processes and procedures will be disciplined accordingly.

11.2 Loss or Damage Procedures

Students or families may be held financially responsible for damage resulting from negligence or intentional misuse. Theft or loss must be reported to school staff and, when appropriate, to local law enforcement. The district will determine whether an insurance claim, repair, or total replacement is warranted based on the circumstances.

11.3 Device Fees

The district may assess fees for lost or damaged devices. Fee schedules are published annually and available from each school office. Students experiencing financial hardship should contact their school principal or the district office to discuss options.

12. Google Workspace for Education

Yazoo County School District utilizes Google Workspace for Education as its primary digital learning ecosystem. This suite of tools — including Gmail, Google Classroom, Docs, Slides, Drive, and Meet — is provided to students and staff to enhance collaboration, communication, and learning.

Guidelines for Use:

- Google Workspace tools are to be used exclusively for educational and instructional purposes;
- Students and staff shall not use Google Apps for personal, political, or commercial gain;
- All use of Google Apps must comply with the District's Acceptable Use Policy;
- Users shall maintain the integrity and security of the district network at all times; and
- Google Meet and Classroom communications must remain professional and appropriate at all times.

Acknowledgment of Receipt

Yazoo County School District • Five-Year Technology Plan 2026–2031

All students, parents/guardians, and employees must sign and return this Acceptable Use Agreement to acknowledge their understanding and acceptance of the technology policies outlined in this plan. Signed agreements are kept on file at each school campus.

School:

☐ Yazoo County High School

☐ Yazoo County Middle School

☐ Linwood Elementary School

☐ Bentonia Gibbs Elementary

Student Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

13. Board Policies Referenced

The following policies from the Yazoo County School Board Policies govern the use of technology within the district and are incorporated by reference into this Five-Year Long-Range Technology Plan.

Policy JS: Fee Policy

This policy authorizes the Yazoo County School District to assess fees related to the use, loss, or damage of district-issued technology equipment. Consistent with Policy JS, the district may charge students or families for lost, stolen, or damaged devices issued under the 1:1 Chromebook initiative. Fee schedules are published annually and available from each school office. Students experiencing financial hardship may contact the school principal or district office to discuss available options. All fee assessments and collections shall be administered in accordance with this policy.

Policy UBD: Responsible Use of District-Issued Technology

Policy UBD governs the responsible use of all technology devices issued by the Yazoo County School District, including Chromebooks, tablets, and other district-managed equipment. This policy establishes expectations for appropriate use, care, and security of district-issued devices by students and staff. All users are required to use district technology solely for educational and instructional purposes, protect assigned devices from damage or loss, and comply with applicable local, state, and federal laws. Violations of Policy UBD may result in loss of technology privileges, disciplinary action, and/or financial liability as prescribed by Policy JS. This technology plan incorporates and reflects the standards set forth in Policy UBD throughout its device management, acceptable use, and student responsibility sections.

Policy U: Technology and Instruction / Electronic Information Resource

Policy U establishes the framework for the integration of technology into instruction and the use of electronic information resources within the Yazoo County School District. This policy affirms that technology is a tool to enhance teaching and learning, and that all use of electronic information resources—including the Internet, district networks, and digital platforms—must support the educational mission of the district. Policy U requires that technology use align with CIPA, FERPA, COPPA, and all applicable state regulations. This Five-Year Long-Range Technology Plan is developed and implemented in direct alignment with Policy U, ensuring that all strategic goals, instructional integration initiatives, and digital citizenship programming support the responsible and educationally purposeful use of technology and electronic information resources across the district.

The above policies are on file with the Yazoo County School Board and are available for review through the district office. This technology plan shall be construed in accordance with all Yazoo County School Board Policies and applicable law.

14. Sources and References

The following sources and references were used in the development of the Yazoo County School District Five-Year Long-Range Technology Plan 2026–2031:

- Mississippi Connects w/ MDE;
- AI Guidance Document from MDE for Grades K–12;
- Chris Chism Resources;
- Digital Learning Instructional Guides from MDE;
- Selected Digital Tools; and
- Subscription to relevant MDE List Serv.
- MDE Digital Learning Resources: AI for Instruction Pilot.